

DEVELOPMENT CHALLENGES, SOUTH-SOUTH SOLUTIONS

E-newsletter of the Special Unit for South-South Cooperation in UNDP



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1. Mapping to Protect Kenya's Environment: the eMazingira Solution

Powerful new grassroots crowd-mapping tools have sprung up in the past few years across the global South, from Brazil's Wikicrimes (www.wikicrimes.org) real-time crime mapping technology to the now famous Ushahidi (<http://ushahidi.com>) – a non-profit company making the free and open source Ushahidi software for information collection, visualization and interactive mapping – from its base in Kenya. They share some common features. All draw on the widespread use of mobile phones in the global South combined with growing access to the Internet, either through 3G mobile phone services, WiFi wireless connections, Internet centres or increasingly available broadband Internet services.

They then connect the mobile phones to the new mapping services available either on the phones or on the Internet. One example is Google Maps (<http://maps.google.com>).

These mapping services are revolutionary in what they bring to poor communities. They allow people to quantify in real time what is happening in their area, as well as see what is happening around the world. Where in the past this sort of mapping and statistical data collection was chiefly the domain of government departments and private services for wealthy corporations, individuals can now participate in the collection of data and map what is happening in their area. This can include mapping actual crime as it occurs, or slum-mapping, where a visual snap-shot of a slum area is made to better target aid and development.

This is a game-changer for human and sustainable development. It has the potential to close the gap between the collection and analysis of data and action. Accurate, real-time data makes it easier to push government agencies to deliver on their promises, especially during a crisis.

Kenya's eMazingira website (www.emazingira.org) is showing the difference these tools can make. It allows people to identify potentially destructive practices that harm the environment – unregulated forestry, pollution, dangerous animals, land degradation, climate change – and alert others to what is happening. This level of awareness, it is hoped, will in time reduce the destruction of local environments and improve the quality of life for both humans and wildlife.

Mazingira means “environment” in Swahili. The website's motto is “Keeping the environment clean for the future generation”.

The eMazingira website is a visually simple affair with a leafy banner image and an interactive map showing what is happening. It is in its first iteration and future upgrades are on the way. A rolling list of incidents keeps readers briefed on what is happening, from “Fire burning” to “Sewer burst” to “Rogue elephant”. There are five main categories to choose from and users can file reports by text message, email, sending a Tweet (www.twitter.com) or filling in an online form on the website.

“We got to know about Ushahidi during its first deployment which was in Kenya, when it was used to map post-election violence incidents in early 2008,” explains Dunston Machoka, director of BTI Millman Limited (www.btimillman.com) in Nairobi, Kenya, a custom software development firm leading the project.

“We were inspired to develop eMazingira, on one hand, because of the passion we had for environmental conservation and on the

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other hand, from the success stories we had observed of Ushahidi deployments in Kenya, Haiti and Japan.”

Machoka believes this is a critical time for Kenya’s environment: “eMazingira comes at a time when environmental conservation is a huge concern in Kenya. Our key observation was that there was no effective reporting mode for environmental incidents for citizens.”

The website hopes to better engage citizens in tackling the country’s environmental problems and sees this as a way to spur further government action.

One of eMazingira’s proudest moments came when it won the World Summit Youth Award as the 2011 Runner Up for the use of ICT towards attaining the United Nations Millennium Development Goals.

But how easy is it to work with this technology? Machoka advises those starting out to turn to the Ushahidi team for support.

“I would advise them to get in touch with the Ushahidi team through their website and by doing so the deployment will be easy, fast and there will be adequate assistance in case of any challenges,” he said.

For the next two years, eMazingira will be focusing on rolling out the service to the country, from the main towns to rural areas.

“At the end of the period we hope to start similar programmes in East Africa based on the lessons learnt in Kenya,” confirms Machoka.

And that isn’t where the eMazingira story will stop: its creators also want to deploy the technology globally, if countries have the right conditions.

“The key necessity for the application would be good mobile and Internet infrastructure and government that can promote citizen participation in environmental conservation,” Machoka said.

LINKS:

1) With less than five years until the 2015 deadline to meet the Millennium Development Goals, any tool that can make development decisions more precise is a benefit. **Website:** www.undp.org/mdg

2) The Map Kibera project uses an open-source software programme, OpenStreetMap, to allow users to edit and add information as it is gathered. This information is then free to use by anybody wanting to grasp what is actually happening in Kibera: residents, NGOs, private companies and government officials.

Website: www.openstreetmap.org

3) NGO called Rede Jovem is deploying youths armed with GPS (global positioning system)-equipped (http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Global_Positioning_System) mobile phones to map the favelas of Rio de Janeiro.

Website: www.redejovem.org.br

4) Mobile [Active.org](http://www.mobileactive.org): [MobileActive.org](http://www.mobileactive.org) is a community of people and organizations using mobile phones for social impact. They are committed to increasing the effectiveness of NGOs around the world who recognize that the over 4 billion mobile phones provide unprecedented opportunities for organizing, communications, and service and information delivery. **Website:** www.mobileactive.org

2. Building an Interactive Radio Network for Farmers in Nigeria

As solar power technology has improved, new pioneers have emerged to exploit this innovation. Several decades ago, solar power was seen as too expensive for wide-scale roll out in poor countries and communities. But today, an army of solar technology pioneers has fanned out across the world to show the new wave of innovations and how they make solar power affordable.

More than 1.7 billion people around the world have no domestic electricity supply, of whom more than 500 million live in sub-Saharan Africa (World Bank). Without access to domestic electricity, these people need to fall back on expensive, battery-powered devices or use gas generators and lamps: a cost that eats into their income.

More than 90 percent of Nigeria’s estimated 155 million people (US Census Bureau) live on just US \$2 a day. Many of them are small farmers in remote areas. Access to information is very poor, especially critical information that can improve farming methods and boost incomes.

One of the most effective ways to communicate to a large number of people over a large territory is through radio.

A clever use of solar-powered battery radios has enabled the building of a low-cost, two-way communications network for rural farmers. The Smallholders Farmers Rural Radio (<http://smallholdersfoundation.org>) network broadcasts to 250,000 listeners with 10 hours of daily programming. The communications network reaches 3.5 million farmers in around 5,000 villages in Imo State (www.imostate.gov.ng), southeast Nigeria. The programming tackles issues from sustainable farming practices to HIV/AIDS and how to open a bank account

The clever part is the two-way dialogue between the listeners and the radio station. This is done through mobile radios known as AIR devices. They are small, solar-powered radios that let listeners send voice messages to the radio

station. The message is stored on the radio station's computers and later broadcast during a programme, allowing farmers to share their experiences, ask questions and receive answers in their own language.

The slim, hand-held silver-coloured radios have a small antenna and dials.

The network was created by Nnaemeka Ikegwuonu, who won a 2010 Rolex Laureate award (http://young.rolexawards.com/laureates/naemeka_ikegwuonu). The awards seek to foster innovation in the next generation. Launched in 2009, it looks for "visionary young men and women at a critical juncture in their careers, enabling them to implement inventive ideas that tackle the world's most pressing issues in five areas: science and health, applied technology, exploration, the environment and cultural preservation."

Ikegwuonu hopes to bring the service to other parts of Nigeria.

His radio studio is the height of simplicity and sophistication: a laptop computer, a microphone, a headset and a small control board to manage the sound levels. The radio signal is broadcast through a 30-metre-high antenna.

Solar power is being creatively used in many countries to tackle energy poverty. This ranges from lamps and lights to cookers to small power packs for electronic devices, all the way to large hardware to power homes and communities. In India, whole villages are already using solar energy and improving their standard of living. Various companies and projects are selling inexpensive solar appliances – from cooking stoves to lanterns and power generators – across the country.

A report by the International Finance Corporation called the sub-Saharan solar market the largest in the world – a market of 65 million potential customers, who could access off-grid lighting over the next five years (IFC). The report anticipated high growth rates of 40 to 50 percent for anyone entering the market, with less than one percent of the market currently being served.

With a billion Africans using just four percent of the world's electricity (The Economist), energy poverty is already harming further economic growth and development gains. As Africa's population is expected to double to 2 billion by 2050, the gap between people's needs and the power available will be stark: in Nigeria, out of 79 power stations, only 17 are working (The Economist). It will take innovators like Ikegwuonu to bring hope to this situation and transform lives despite the obstacles.

LINKS:

1) ToughStuff has developed a modular range of affordable solar powered energy solutions to the three main power needs of poor consumers in the developing world – lighting, mobile phones and radios.

Website: www.toughstuffonline.com

2) Solar Power Answers is a one-stop-shop for everything to do with solar power. It has a design manual and guides to the complex world of solar power equipment. **Website:** www.solar-power-answers.co.uk/index.php

3) How We Made It Africa: A website detailing success stories on businesses investing in Africa and how people are making the most of opportunities on the continent. **Website:** www.howwemadeitinafrica.com

4) Solar Sister: A clever way to sell solar lamps and torches using a network of women.

Website: www.solarsister.org

5) D.light Design: Their lights use LEDs (light emitting diodes) (http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/LED_lamp) and are four times brighter than a kerosene lantern according to D.Light Design. **Website:** www.dlightdesign.com

6) Lighting Africa: Lighting Africa, a joint IFC and World Bank program, is helping develop commercial off-grid lighting markets in Sub-Saharan Africa as part of the World Bank Group's wider efforts to improve access to energy. Lighting Africa is mobilizing the private sector to build sustainable markets to provide safe, affordable, and modern off-grid lighting to 2.5 million people in Africa by 2012 and to 250 million people by 2030.

Website: www.lightingafrica.org

7) A list of Nigerian companies selling solar-powered equipment and devices.

Website: http://posharp.com/solar-energy-service-companies-in-nigeria-in-alphabetic-order_renewable.aspx?ptype=solar&btype=service>ype=country_NG&xtype=ntype

8) One Indian NGO working to electrify rural, remote villages around the world is the Barefoot College that trains primarily women to be solar engineers. **Website:** www.barefootcollege.org

3. African Manufacturing Pioneers Proving it is Possible to Thrive

Africa's paradox is that it is home to the greatest share of the world's unexploited resources, yet has some of the world's lowest per capita incomes. History has shown that exploiting the continent's resources alone for export markets does little to improve incomes and living conditions in Africa, which in turn does nothing to improve human development. The key to resolving this paradox is made-in-Africa jobs, in particular high-value jobs that make products.

Africa still mostly makes its income from exporting raw commodities, from minerals to fuel to food. In the 1990s, Asian countries exported five times more manufactured goods, as share of GDP, than sub-Saharan Africa. Things

changed in the 2000s. African manufactured output has roughly doubled over the last 10 years. And those goods are going more to the emerging economies than to the traditional powers (African Economic Outlook).

African Economic Outlook points out that by 2009 “trade between African countries and emerging powers equalled that between Africa and its traditional partners.”

“South-based manufacturing enhances the welfare of African consumers via prices and functionality,” the report says.

“For instance, generic Indian pharmaceuticals are cheaper than brands from traditional partners.”

Small and medium enterprises (SMEs) have been identified as a key part of Africa’s future prosperity and key to its ability to reduce poverty and achieve development objectives like the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) (www.un.org/millenniumgoals).

The sector is large but its economic power is inefficiently used. Telling the Wall Street Journal, Mthuli Ncube, chief economist at the African Development Bank Group, estimated one-quarter of Africa’s gross domestic product — about US \$450 billion — comes from 65 million small and medium-sized enterprises.

Manufacturing has been difficult to measure because so many businesses are just tiny cottage industries.

Obstacles to growth include poor infrastructure, unreliable power supplies, unscaleable business models, low quality standards and poor quality branding and design.

Access to funding is often weak and fragmented and many programmes run by international donors and banks targeting SMEs are uncoordinated and duplicate resources. The global economic crisis has not made these factors any easier.

But things are changing in many areas. The booming technology, consumer goods and resource sectors offer hope for a manufacturing renaissance.

There are examples from Africa defying the sceptics and showing it is possible to expand and export manufactured, finished goods that meet international standards.

What they have in common is a sophisticated product offering and an ability to meet international export standards. They also have overcome obstacles that scare away more timid international rivals.

Nigerian shoe and garment maker Fut Conceptus (www.futconceptus.com) has been taking raw Nigerian leather that was once just sent overseas for export, and instead is turning out high-quality shoes and bags made in Nigerian factories. These shoes – made in African, Spanish and Italian styles – meet international standards and are exported around Africa. It has also established operations in Spain and the United Kingdom.

Started in 2008, the company got off to a good start by seeking out the best expertise to train its staff. Shoe-making experts from Spain were brought in to do the training. The company also imported top-quality machinery from Italy and Spain to make sure its operations were modern and efficient.

These first, smart moves have meant the company is able to run an efficient and high-skilled operation in Nigeria while also making its products to international standards. This is critical for a start-up business: the better the quality of the product in the beginning, the better the chance for accessing lucrative export markets. And the better and more efficient the manufacturing processes, the better chance a company will have meeting increasing demand and tight deadlines. It is one thing to make the best shoe in the world, but if you cannot deliver the quantity required for orders, then your reputation will be damaged.

Fut Conceptus is able to produce 22,000 pairs of sandals and 10,000 pairs of safety boots a day, according to its website.

Fut Conceptus Manufacturing Nigeria Ltd. also found a way to thrive in the country’s difficult and erratic conditions. To deal with the unreliable power supply, they run four electric generators. This costs them US \$500 a day in fuel. This power problem scares off multinational companies, leaving the market open for Fut Conceptus. The company has been able to use this first-mover advantage to build its brand across West Africa. It currently makes men’s moccasins, slippers, law enforcement footwear, safety footwear, and ladies’ sandals.

Founder Olumide Wole-Madariola is proud of the achievement. “Nobody was ready for what we were doing... Nobody was ready for ‘Made in Nigeria,’” he said.

South African sauce maker Primolitos (www.primolitos.com) has become one of the few African companies able to meet international standards for food exports. It makes a vast range of products (http://www.primolitos.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=10&Itemid=12), from juices to sauces, spices, pickles, soups and baked goods.

The company has been around for over a decade and sells 2,000 products. It has also set-up a sister division to specialise in liquid and powdered food sachets. The company also has a clear “Quality Policy”, championing collective decision-making between management and staff, delivering “quality and safe consumer products”, and a system to quickly respond to consumer complaints and recall substandard products. All ingredients for building trust in a business.

It also has an ISO 20 0002 (www.iso.org/iso/home.html) accredited factory, complete with three testing labs, a

training room, test kitchen, care centre for employees' children, a wellness centre, laundry, high-tech water filtration and purification systems and the latest in hygiene and manufacturing processes. All of this a clear example of the commitment required to build a quality company that can export.

Over at Good African Coffee, Ugandan entrepreneur Andrew Rugasira is pioneering new ways to process coffee in Africa. He set up Uganda's first enterprise to make instant coffee two years ago. This is a radical departure from the old practice of exporting the coffee beans to Europe for processing into instant coffee, which would then be exported back to Africa.

"For decades, Africans have produced what they do not consume and consumed what they do not produce," Rugasira told the Wall Street Journal.

The company has developed unique distribution arrangements for its instant coffee. A recent deal included providing coffee for an American network of 12,000 churches.

The company's products are cleverly designed and packaged and are sold in distinct colour-coordinated packets. The company also passionately champions "trade not aid" as the long-term solution to Africa's economic growth (<http://www.goodafrican.com/index.php/our-story/trade-not-aid.html>).

On the African island of Madagascar, a company is trying to reverse the practice of exporting Africa's cocoa beans for manufacturing into chocolate products. The Madecasse Chocolate LLC. (<http://madecasse.com>) is a collaboration between American entrepreneur Tim McCollum and Madagascan chocolatier Shahin Cassam Chenai. The company is making a range of chocolate and vanilla products for US supermarkets.

"If Africa could sell the world chocolate...it wouldn't solve all the continent's problems, but it could make a big dent," McCollum told the Wall Street Journal.

Africa is believed to produce 60 to 70 percent of the world's cacao supply. Less than one percent is made in Africa and most is made into chocolate outside the continent.

Madecasse's high-quality chocolate bars sell in the US for US \$6 each. Their market niche is to make "a single-origin chocolate, made entirely in Madagascar, which rivals the flavour of the best European chocolates", according to its website. Flavours (<http://store.madecasse.com>) include pink pepper and citrus, cinnamon and sakay (a type of Madagascan hot pepper sauce), exotic pepper, sea salt and nibs, Arabica coffee, and baking chocolate. They also sell the world-famous Madagascan vanilla beans and extract. All are sold in colourful and well-designed packaging and sold on their website.

Chenai is a self-taught chocolate maker and works with a local team to refine the Madécasse chocolate.

"Connoisseurs know Madagascar produces some of the best cocoa in the world," maintains Chenai. "My passion is to prove we can produce some of the best chocolate in the world."

LINKS:

1) SME Toolkit South Africa: A website packed with resources and support for anyone starting a small business in Africa. **Website:** <http://southafrica.smetoolkit.org/sa/en>

2) African Guarantee Fund for Small and Medium-sized Enterprises: The AGF provides guarantees and technical assistance to financial institutions in Africa with the objective of generating enhanced growth in the SME sector and increasing employment opportunities in the economy, particularly for youth.

Website: www.afdb.org/en/topics-and-sectors/initiatives-partnerships/african-guarantee-fund-for-small-and-medium-sized-enterprises

3) Small and Medium Enterprise Support, East Africa: A blog promoting events and support for SMEs in East Africa. **Website:** <http://smeseastafrica.blogspot.com>

4) Integrating Developing Countries' SMEs into Global Value Chains: A paper from UNCTAD (2010).

Website: http://www.unctad.org/en/docs/diaeed20095_en.pdf

4. Indian City Slum Areas Become Newly Desirable Places to Live

With India's urban economy experiencing rapid growth, its slums – once seen as the most undesirable places to live in the country, if not on Earth – are attracting the attention of affluent residents and developers in India's rapidly expanding cities. The prosperity in India's cities has made these areas' proximity to business and entertainment zones highly desirable. In turn, this has led to slum dwellers either upgrading their homes and in the process boosting their value, or being offered the opportunity to sell their rudimentary dwellings to real estate agents and property developers.

For some, this could be a great leap forward in income and opportunity; for others, it could mean exploitation and hard choices, weighing up the cash boost against moving out of the slum area.

How to best handle slum areas in urban and peri-urban communities will be a major challenge for most countries in the South as they continue to urbanize.

India's phenomenal economic growth rate – forecast to be 7.9 percent this year by the Asian Development Bank,

after averaging 7.7 percent per year over the past decade – has been the force behind an expanding middle class population, now estimated at 50 million people (McKinsey). Forecasts see it swelling from 5 percent of India's population to 40 percent by 2025.

With 30 percent of the population living in urban areas and cities contributing 60 percent of the country's GDP and 90 percent of government revenues (Wall Street Journal), city-dwellers' fate is critical to the functioning of the economy. According to the 2001 Indian census, slums make up 25 percent of all housing and 26 percent of urban households lack access to sanitation facilities.

But Indu Prakash Vaidya, a 32-year-old housewife, is part of new trend in India's city slums. Vaidya lives in a small shanty house in Mumbai with no running water, no sewage services and a jerry-rigged electrical connection.

Vaidya's home is a just a single room for the five people in her family. They sleep on the cement floor and the 'kitchen' is a two-burner gas stove. The dwelling is so poorly constructed that they have to move around inside the room when it rains outside to avoid getting soaked.

But her humble home has been valued at US \$24,000 by people looking to buy it.

According to real estate agent Hari Ram, the average price of a 91 square metre shanty home in Mumbai is now US \$46,000.

"Shanties as small as 120 square feet... are as expensive as US \$93,000," Dinesh Prabhu, a construction company owner, told NDTV television.

Sixty percent of Mumbai's 21 million people live in slums. And many are now finding themselves the subject of a property boom. This has led to the bizarre spectacle of luxury high-rise buildings sprouting up in a sea of slum housing. The slums are attracting the attention of those with money because many busy city workers face long commutes and are desperate for homes closer to work and entertainment areas.

The value of living close to the action is summed up by one slum dweller:

"People would kill to be in a place like this," said slum dweller Sundar. "There are four local train stations close by. And the bus stop is a stone's throw away."

Some say this real estate boom offers enormous potential for the poor.

"All I can say is, given the current real-estate rates, those slums are invaluable," said Sharad Mahajan of the Pune-based nonprofit organization Mashal (<http://mashalindia.org>). Mashal focuses on the problem of urban shelter and also implements housing projects. It has been working in the Dharavi slum area with the Maharashtra government on its redevelopment. The slum is well-known for its representation in the film Slumdog Millionaire, and the area is next to the Bandra-Kurla Complex business district of Mumbai. Mashal has been mapping the area, home to 60,000 families, to make sure the redevelopment is fair to the families living there.

Land tenure is an issue however. Many slum dwellers do not have official title to the land they live on. Over time, they have become semi-official places to live as governments have hooked many up to electricity and drinking water. Issues of corruption and exploitation are also other problems that need addressing if this real estate windfall is to actually benefit slum dwellers.

Typical slum dwellers are day labourers and poor migrants. But others are people who good easily afford to live somewhere else but don't want the long commutes to work.

"It is simpler and less expensive to live here," said Sankaralingam, a plastic merchant, who estimates his annual income at around US \$9,300: an amount that could get him a home somewhere nicer.

For Indu Prakash Vaidya, the dilemma – to sell or not to sell – makes for some painful choices. While her current home is prone to flooding during the rainy season, she feels she would have nowhere else to go if she sold the home.

Yet the pressure to sell is great and elemental.

"I have three children, and their education and well-being need to be taken care of. Financial constraints can push me to sell this shanty in the future, then where will I live? I will have nowhere to go," she told NDTV.

LINKS:

1) New documentary Urbanized gives a passionate over-view of the challenges facing the rapidly urbanizing world around us. **Website:** <http://urbanizedfilm.com>

WINDOW ON THE WORLD

Check out our website archive: www.southerninnovator.org

Our new magazine, Southern Innovator, has launched: the first issue's theme is mobile phones and information technology. Throughout 2011, we will be launching more media products building on the success of the Development Challenges, South-South Solutions e-newsletter: stay tuned for more developments. Please contact the Special Unit

for South-South Cooperation if you would like a copy (copies) of the new magazine.

The Special Unit for South-South Cooperation has launched its new website. It is packed with key information on how to tap the extensive resources offered by the Unit.

Website: <http://ssc-www.dev.undp.org/content/ssc.html>

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Called "...a terrific tour de force of what is interesting, cutting edge and relevant in the global mobile/ICT space..."

Also check out our SouthSouth Expo: this year's Expo will be in Rome, Italy from 5 to 9 December 2011:

Website: www.southsouthexpo.org

BOOKS

Lost Colony: The Untold Story of China's First Great Victory over the West by Tonio Andrade,

Publisher: Princeton University Press. Website: www.press.princeton.edu

China's Regulatory State: A New Strategy for Globalization by Roselyn Hsueh,

Publisher: Cornell University Press. Website: www.cornellpress.cornell.edu

A Liberal World Order in Crisis: Choosing between Imposition and Restraint by Georg Sorensen,

Publisher: Cornell University Press. Website: www.cornellpress.cornell.edu

Living in the Endless City edited by Ricky Burdett and Deyan Sudjic,

Publisher: Phaidon. The city is the subject of the 21st century. All over the world, populations are shifting towards urban centres. Living in the Endless City depicts an authoritative survey of cities of today and the prospects for our urban future of tomorrow. 36 contributors from across Europe, South America, China, Africa and the U.S. set the agenda for the city - detailing its successes as well as its failures.

Website: <http://www.urban-age.net/publications/living-in-the-endless-city>

Consumptionomics: Asia's Role in Reshaping Capitalism by Chandran Nair,

Publisher: Infinite Ideas. Website: www.amazon.com

World 3.0: Global Prosperity and How to Achieve It by Pankaj Ghemawa,

Publisher: Harvard Business School Press. Website: www.amazon.com

How the West Was Lost: Fifty Years of Economic Folly – And the Stark Choices Ahead by Dambisa Moyo,

Publisher: Allen Lane. The new book from challenging thinker Moyo, it argues the West needs to start following China's economic model or face economic ruin. Website: www.amazon.com

The China Miracle: Development Strategy and Economic Reform by Justin Yifu Lin,

Publisher: The Chinese University Press. Website: www.eurospanbookstore.com

Africa in the Global Economy by Richard E. Mshomba,

Publisher: Lynne Rienner. Website: www.eurospanbookstore.com

The Recession Prevention Handbook: Eleven Case Studies, 1948-2007 by Norman Frumkin,

Publisher: M. E. Sharpe. Website: www.eurospanbookstore.com

The Roller Coaster Economy: Financial Crises, Great Recession and the Public Option by Howard J. Sherman,

Publisher: M. E. Sharpe. Website: www.eurospanbookstore.com

Global Slump: The Economics and Politics of Crisis and Resistance by David McNally,

Publisher: PM Press. Global Slump analyzes the global financial meltdown as the first systemic crisis of the neoliberal stage of capitalism. It argues that – far from having ended – the crisis has ushered in a whole period of worldwide economic and political turbulence. In developing an account of the crisis as rooted in fundamental features of capitalism, Global Slump challenges the view that its source lies in financial deregulation.

Website: https://secure.pmpress.org/index.php?l=product_detail&p=271

Aftershock: Reshaping the World Economy After the Crisis by Philippe Legrain,

Publisher: Little, Brown. Website: www.philippelegrain.com/aftershock

Creative Ecologies: Where Thinking is a Proper Job by John Howkins,

Publisher: UQP. Website: www.creativeeconomy.com/think.htm

The Global Crisis: The Path to the World Afterwards by Frank Biancheri,

Publisher: Anticipolis. Website: www.anticipolis.eu/en_index.php

The Age of Empathy: Nature's Lessons for a Kinder Society by Frans de Waal,

Publisher: Crown. Website: www.amazon.com

Arrival City by Doug Saunders,

Publisher: Pantheon. A third of humanity is on the move. History's largest migration is creating new urban spaces that are this century's focal points of conflict and change — centres of febrile settlement that will reshape our cities and reconfigure our economies. Website: <http://arrivalcity.net>

China: And the End of Poverty in Africa – Towards Mutual Benefit? by Penny Davis,

Publisher: Diakonia and the European Network on Debt and Development.

Website: www.eurodad.org/uploadedFiles/Whats_New/Reports/Kinarapport_A4.pdf

Globalization and Competition: Why Some Emergent Countries Succeed while Others Fall Behind by Luiz Carlos Bresser Pereira,

Publisher: Cambridge University Press. **Website:** www.networkideas.org/book/jan2010/bk12_GACL.htm

Tourism and Poverty Reduction: Pathways to Prosperity by Jonathan Mitchell and Caroline Ashley,

Publisher: Earthscan. **Website:** www.earthscan.co.uk/?TabId=92842&v=497073

State of the Field in Youth Enterprise, Employment, and Livelihoods Development,

Publisher: Making Cents International. **Website:** www.youthenterpriseconference.org

Urban World: A New Chapter in Urban Development,

Publisher: UNHABITAT.

Website: www.scribd.com/doc/31244004/Urban-World-A-New-Chapter-in-Urban-Development

Building Decent Societies: Rethinking the Role of Social Security in Development edited by Peter Townsend,

Publisher: International Labour Office. **Website:** www.ilo.org/publns

World of Work Report 2010: From One Crisis to the Next?

Publisher: International Labour Office. **Website:** www.ilo.org/publns

From the Great Recession to Labour Market Recovery: Issues, Evidence and Policy Options edited by Iyanatul Islam and Sher Verick,

Publisher: International Labour Office. **Website:** www.ilo.org/publns

PAPERS AND REPORTS

Illicit Financial Flows from the Least Developed Countries: 1990-2008 UNDP-Commissioned Report

Contact: Monique Perry Danziger

Email: mdanziger@gfip.org

Website: <http://www.financialtaskforce.org/2011/05/12/undp-commissioned-report-from-global-financial-integrity-%E2%80%99Cillicit-financial-flows-from-the-least-developed-countries-1990-2008%E2%80%9D-now-available>

Information Economy Report 2010: ICTs, Enterprises and Poverty Alleviation

Publisher: UNCTAD.

Website: <http://www.unctad.org/Templates/webflyer.asp?docid=13912&intltemID=2068&lang=1>

State of China's Cities: 2010/2011: Better City, Better Life

Publisher: UNHABITAT. **Website:** www.scribd.com/doc/39882697/State-of-China-s-Cities-Report-2010-2011

Still our Common Interest: Commission for Africa Report 2010

Publisher: Commission for Africa. **Website:** www.commissionforafrica.info/2010-report

World Economic Outlook Update: Restoring Confidence without Harming Recovery

Publisher: IMF. **Website:** www.imf.org/external/pubs/ft/weo/2010/update/02/index.htm

Trade and Development Report, 2010: Employment, Globalization and Development

Publisher: UNCTAD. **Website:** www.unctad.org/Templates/webflyer.asp?docid=13740&intltemID=2068&lang=1

Empowering People and Transforming Society: The World Economic Forum's Technology Pioneers 2011

Publisher: World Economic Forum. **Website:** www.scribd.com/doc/35953976/Technology-Pioneers-2011

The Emerging Middle Class in Developing Countries

Publisher: OECD. **Website:** www.oecdilibrary.org/oecd/content/workingpaper/5kmp8lncrns-en (PDF - 2.09 mb)

The BRICSAM Countries and Changing World Economic Power: Scenarios to 2050 by Manmohan Agarwal,

Publisher: The Centre for International Governance Innovation. Working Paper: Shifting Global Power. Africa and Mexico has the potential to change the balance of economic power in the world. This paper analyzes this potential building on developments in these economies over the past four decades in the context of the evolution of the world economy. **Website:** www.cigionline.com/sites/default/files/Paper_39-web-1.pdf

The Implications of China's Ascendancy for Africa by Hany Besada,

Publisher: The Centre for International Governance Innovation. Working Paper: Shifting Global Power. This paper examines the extent to which China's engagement with Africa has produced mutual benefits for both and whether Africa is reaping the necessary benefits required for poverty alleviation and economic development.

Website: http://www.cigionline.com/sites/default/files/Paper_40-web.pdf

Europe-North Korea: Between Humanitarianism and Business? Edited by Myungkyu Park, Bernhard Seliger and Sung-Jo Park,

Publisher: LIT. **Website:** www.gpic.nl/EU-North-Korea-book.pdf

Global Economic Decoupling Alive and Well

Emerging economies decouple from the US, come closer to Europe.

Website: <http://www.marketoracle.co.uk/Article23670.html>

The Global Financial Crisis and Africa's "Immiserizing Wealth"

Research Brief, United Nations University, Number 1 2010.

Website: www.unu.edu/publications/briefs/policy-briefs/2010/UNU_ResearchBrief_10-01.pdf

Where Western business sees 'risk', Chinese entrepreneurs see opportunity by Dr Jing Gu. Dr Gu and her China based team from the China-Africa Business Council (CABC) and the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences (CASS) have had direct access to private Chinese companies working in Africa, including 100 in-depth interviews with Chinese firms and business associations and officials in both China and Africa.

Website: www.ids.ac.uk/go/news/where-western-business-sees-risk-chinese-entrepreneurs-see-opportunity

Can China Save Western Economies From Collapse?

Website: www.marketoracle.co.uk/Article19484.html

China's economic invasion of Africa

Website: www.guardian.co.uk/world/2011/feb/06/chinas-economic-invasion-of-africa

Africa begins to make poverty history: US economists challenge conventional view that the continent is a basket case

Website: www.guardian.co.uk/business/2010/mar/03/africa-makes-poverty-history

ON THE WEB

BLOGS AND WEBSITES

mDirectory: The mDirectory is the most comprehensive database of information on mobile tech for social change on the Web: case studies, mobile tools, research, and how-to guides. **Website:** <http://mobileactive.org/directory>

Global Development: Launched in September 2010, this new website from the Guardian newspaper will track progress on the MDGs, encourage debate on its blogs, offer a rich store of datasets from around the world, and feature monthly podcasts and resources for schools. **Website:** www.guardian.co.uk/global-development

Latameconomy Website Launches

[Latameconomy.org](http://latameconomy.org) is the latest evolution of the annual Latin American Economic Outlook report, essentially bringing its trusted, high quality content into the digital age. Its wide country coverage and methods of analysis are essential for anyone seeking to understand the economic, social and political developments of Latin American countries.

Website: www.latameconomy.org/en

International Development Economics Associates (IDEAs)

International Development Economics Associates (IDEAs) is a pluralist network of progressive economists across the world, engaged in research, teaching and dissemination of critical analyses of economic policy and development.

Website: www.networkideas.org

OECD: Tackling the economic crisis website

The global economic crisis is entering a new phase amid signs of a return to positive growth in many countries. But unemployment is likely to remain high and much still needs to be done to underpin a durable recovery. This website will track the recovery. **Website:** www.oecd.org/document/24/0,3343,en_2649_201185_41707672_1_1_1_1,00.html

The Global Urbanist: News and analysis of cities around the world: planning, governance, economy, communities, environment, international. **Website:** www.globalurbanist.com

ICT Update: A bimonthly printed bulletin, a web magazine, and an accompanying email newsletter that explores innovative uses of information technology in agriculture and rural development in African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) countries. **Website:** <http://ictupdate.cta.int/en/Regulars/Perspectives/%28issue%29/56>

Youth-Inclusive Financial Services (YFS-Link) Program

Website: The first space for financial services providers (FSPs) and youth-service organizations (YSOs) to gather, learn and share about youth-inclusive financial services. **Website:** www.yfslink.org

Triple Crisis Blog: Global Perspectives on Finance, Development and Environment

Website: <http://triplecrisis.com>

Full Disclosure: The Aid Transparency Blog: A Devex blog, written by members of the international community.

Website: www.devex.com/en/blogs/full-disclosure

Africa Portal: An online knowledge resource offering researchers and opinion leaders a forum to share their insights on Africa and publish their work on pressing areas of concern to policymakers and the public. It aims to fill the gap in accessibility to research and information on policy issues on the continent.

Website: www.africaportal.org

African Economic Outlook: A unique online tool that puts rigorous economic data, information and research on Africa at your fingertips. A few clicks gives access to comprehensive analyses of African economies, placed in

their social and political contexts. This is the only place where African countries are examined through a common analytical framework, allowing you to compare economic prospects at the regional, sub-regional and country levels.

Website: www.africaneconomicoutlook.org/en

Africa Renewal: The Africa Renewal information programme, produced by the Africa Section of the United Nations Department of Public Information, provides up-to-date information and analysis of the major economic and development challenges facing Africa today. **Website:** www.un.org/ecosocdev/geninfo/afrec

Timbuktu Chronicles: A blog by Emeka Okafor

With "a view of Africa and Africans with a focus on entrepreneurship, innovation, technology, practical remedies and other self-sustaining activities."

Website: <http://timbuktuchronicles.blogspot.com>

AfriGadget: AfriGadget is a must-read for African invention junkies. They are always on the look out for ingenious innovation that is new or a repurposing of existing technology in a new way, interesting in the sense that the story captures the imagination of others, inspiring others to see solutions in uncommon ways, practical ideas that solve problems in a demonstrable way, and entrepreneurs who are inventing new products or solutions.

Website: www.afrigadget.com

Silicon Savanna: Mobile Phones Transform Africa

Website: www.time.com/time/magazine/article/0,9171,2080702,00.html

INTERESTING BLOGGER

Olunyi D. Ajao: An Internet entrepreneur & technology enthusiast with strong interests in web design and hosting, writing about mobile communications technologies, and blogging. Topics are aimed at web designers, SEOs, bloggers, Internet entrepreneurs and people with general interests in Ghana, Nigeria, Kenya, South Africa and the rest of Africa.

Website: www.davidajao.com/blog

SOCIAL MEDIA

Africa Entrepreneurship Platform

This ground breaking initiative is created as a forum to showcase innovative ideas and businesses from Africa that have the ability to scale internationally, driving job creation and sustainable economic development between Africa and the Americas. **Website:** www.sacca.biz

AfriGadget on Facebook: 'Solving everyday problems with African ingenuity'.

Website: www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=2402629579

START-UP FUNDING

The SEED Initiative

Hosted by the UN Environment Programme's World Conservation Monitoring Centre (UNEP-WCMC), the SEED Initiative is a global partnership for action on the Green Economy. The annual SEED Awards help to develop the most promising social and environmental start-ups in emerging economies and developing countries.

Website: <http://unep.org/newscentre/Default.aspx?DocumentID=2647&ArticleID=8798&l=en>

Crowdfund:

A South African-based venture fund for technology start-ups in Africa.

Website: www.crowdfunding.co.za

Global Social Benefit Incubator: A US \$20,000 Bottom of the Pyramid Scholarship

Offered by Santa Clara University's Global Social Benefit Incubator, it selects 15 to 20 enterprises from developing countries and provides an eight-month mentoring process. This ends with a 10-day process in Santa Clara, where entrepreneurs work with their mentors.

Website: www.socialedge.org

The Pioneers of Prosperity Grant and Award

This competition is a partnership between the OTF Group and the John F. Templeton Foundation of the United States, and promotes companies in East Africa by identifying local role models that act as examples of sustainable businesses in their country/region. It is open to businesses from Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania, Burundi and Rwanda.

Five pioneers will receive US \$50,000 to re-invest in their business. It is open to for-profit businesses that provide high wages to their workers and that operate in sustainable ways.

Website: <http://pioneersofprosperity.org/index.php>

Oxford Said Business School Youth Business Development Competition

Open to youth between 16 and 21 across the world, the competition is run by students at Oxford University to promote social enterprise. A prize fund of £2,000 in seed capital is up for grabs. It calls itself the 'world's first global youth development competition'.

Website: www.sbs.ox.ac.uk/oba/se/ybd

Echoing Green: Social Entrepreneurs Fund

Website: www.echoinggreen.org

Commonwealth Teams up with Private Equity Firm to Deliver up to \$400 Million in Investment in Africa

Small and medium enterprises across Africa are set to benefit from a multimillion dollar investment fund set up by private equity firm Aureos Capital (www.aureos.com/) with the Commonwealth Secretariat's assistance. The Aureos Africa Fund, launched in November following feasibility and due diligence studies funded by the Secretariat, will provide long-term capital and support for promising and successful businesses across the continent.

Commonwealth Deputy Secretary-General Ransford Smith, speaking at the launch of the fund at the Marriot Hotel in London, UK, on 2 November 2009, hailed the fund's launch. He warned that investment in Africa was "critical" if recent development gains were not to be lost amid the current worldwide recession. "This fund has the potential to make a real contribution to Commonwealth countries in Africa, by helping ordinary businesses to reach their potential and boost much needed growth and jobs across the continent," he said.

Website: <http://www.thecommonwealth.org/news/215560/021109aureoscapital.htm>

The Africa Land Fund

The fund has raised almost €2 billion from an American pension fund to invest in African agriculture. The Africa Land Fund, created by the UK-based hedge fund Emergent Asset Management, wants to raise a total of €3 billion and is canvassing a range of investors. It plans to invest in agricultural land and livestock, including African game, which will be sold on to private reserves and safari parks. The fund also plans to develop bio fuel crops on marginal land, saving prime agricultural acreage for crops to feed people.

Email: info@eaml.net

Tel: +44 (0) 1428 656 966

Fax: +44 (0) 1428 656 955

Challenge

InnoCentive (www.innocentive.com/) is a challenge to the world's inventors to find solutions to real scientific and technological problems affecting the poor and vulnerable. It is an open marketplace where anybody with a problem can post it, and rewards for effective solutions stretch up to US \$100,000. They use rigorous intellectual property protection so ideas are not stolen without credit being given to the inventor.

Website: www.rockfound.org/about_us/news/2007/0720first_seeker.shtml

VIDEO

Forum for the Future: Compelling animated videos exploring the hard choices of an urbanizing world and the need to promote sustainable development and environmental harmony.

Website: <http://www.youtube.com/user/forumforthefuture96>

UPCOMING EVENTS

2011

Have an event you would like the South-South community to know about? Then send details to developmentchallenges@googlemail.com.

DECEMBER

Global South-South Development Expo 2011

FAO Rome, Italy (5-9 December 2011)

The Global South-South Development Expo (GSSD Expo) is the FIRST EVER Expo solely from the South and for the South. It showcases successful Southern-grown development solutions (SDSs) to address the need to meet Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). It is designed as a concrete response to the strong commitment made by the Secretary-General and the UNDP Administrator to help the global South realize its shared aspirations for achieving sustainable and equitable development through the sharing and transfer of SDSs, with the support of the donor community and the multilateral system under innovative triangular and public-private partnership (PPP) arrangements. It also constitutes one of the Special Unit's three global and United Nations system-wide South-South support platforms.

Website: www.southsouthexpo.org

European Development Days 2011

Warsaw, Poland (15-16 December 2011)

The sixth edition of European Development Days brings together male and female politicians, parliamentarians, representatives of international institutions, local authorities, NGOs, business leaders, researchers, journalists, artists and students... all to share their knowledge and their experiences. At every level, participants, hosts, moderators, debaters, exhibitors, whether they're from the North or the South, can all take part, put forward their ideas, examine creative solutions and question responsibilities. The debates are in plenary sessions or in bilateral

meetings, in workshops or in the framework of parallel events, in quiet lounges or before the press. The European Development Days represent an opportunity to make good use of the diversity of viewpoints and models operating in the world.

Website: <http://www.eudevdays.eu>

2012

Earth Summit 2012: Towards a World Summit on Sustainable Development in 2012

Rio, Brazil (TBC 2012)

The United Nations General Assembly agreed to a new Earth Summit in December. The Summit will be in 2012 and will be hosted by Brazil. The themes are the Green Economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication, the institutional framework for sustainable development, emerging issues and a review of present commitments. This site will keep you abreast of all the developments and latest news.

Website: <http://www.earthsummit2012.org>

FEBRUARY

PlastIndia 2012: World's Third Largest International Plastics Exhibition and Conference

New Delhi, India (1-6 February 2012)

Website: www.plastindia.org

AWARDS AND FUNDING

Invitation to apply for Global Labour University program.

Last date for applying: November 30, 2011

The Global Labour University is currently accepting applications to its 'Engage' programme on Labour Policies and Globalisation. Trade Unionists are invited to apply by November 30, 2011.

The Engage programme is a policy oriented course that combines academic learning with practical trade union work. The course consists of two components: the first part is an academic training programme that takes place over 3,5 months and is taught at the Berlin School of Economics and Law and the University of Kassel. The academic programme is then followed by two months of field work during which participants develop a policy project/campaign with a national or international trade union organisation.

The 2012 course has two thematic priorities:

1. The role of multinational companies in the global economy, and trade union strategies and campaigns of cross border solidarity and networking. This theme is implemented in cooperation with Global Union Federations.
2. Global income security through minimum wages and social transfers. This theme is implemented in cooperation with the ITUC and the ILO.

For further information, application form and scholarships, visit: <http://www.global-labour-university.org/216.html>

World Summit Youth Award

The international contest for young people using the Internet and mobiles to take action on the UN Millennium Development Goals. **Website:** www.youthaward.org

Grand Challenges Canada: Request for proposals

Grand Challenges Canada is pleased to announce a new initiative in its Maternal, Neonatal and Child Health grand challenge. It's called Saving Brains. Its goal is to unlock potential in children and dramatically transform lives in the developing world.

The money to fund this program comes from the Development Innovation Fund. In Budget 2008, the Government of Canada committed \$225 million CAD over five years to the Development Innovation Fund, to support the best minds in the world in a collaborative search for solutions to global health challenges.

For the Request for Proposals:

Website: http://www.grandchallenges.ca/wp-content/uploads/2011/05/Request_for_Proposals-Saving_Brains_EN.pdf

Zayed Future Energy Prize

The world is in desperate need of innovative solutions to create a new, sustainable energy future. No one knows who or where the next great energy solution will come from. Solutions and technologies that could change the world are being developed globally, and the \$2.2 million Zayed Future Energy Prize, managed by Masdar in Abu Dhabi, recognizes and rewards innovation, leadership, and long-term vision in renewable energy and sustainability.

Website: www.zayedfutureenergyprize.com

Philips Liveable Cities Award

Philips is looking for individuals and community or non-government organizations and businesses with ideas for

“simple solutions” that will improve people’s health and well-being in a city to enter the Philips Liveable Cities Award. To help translate these ideas into reality, three Award grants totalling €125,000 are on the line. One overall winning idea from any of the three categories outlined below will receive a grant of €75,000, while the two additional ideas will receive grants of €25,000.

Website: www.because.philips.com/livable-cities-award/about-the-award

Piramal Foundation in India

Has established a US \$25,000 prize for ideas that help advance full access to effective public health care in India. The Piramal Prize is a \$25,000 Social Entrepreneurship Competition focused on democratizing health care in India that seeks to encourage and support bold entrepreneurial ideas which can profoundly impact access to higher standards of health for India’s rural and marginalized urban communities. The award recognizes high-impact, scalable business models and innovative solutions that directly or indirectly address India’s health-care crisis.

Website: www.piramalprize.org

Special Award for South-South Transfer – winners announced!

UN-HABITAT, the Building and Social Housing Foundation (BSHF) and the UNDP Special Unit for South-South Cooperation are pleased to announce the winner of the Housing and Urban Development South-South Transfer Award, a special joint initiative which seeks to recognise housing and urban development practices that have been successfully transferred to other countries in the global South. The winner of the Housing and Urban Development South-South Transfer Award is **Un Techo Para mi País (A Roof for my Country)**, Chile, awarded for mobilising thousands of youth volunteers and transferring its innovative approach to 19 countries across Latin America.

The aim of the award is to identify, provide visibility, and honour those who have successfully shared their projects and approaches internationally, thereby increasing the impact of the initiative.

The winning practice receives US\$15,000 to further transfer the awarded practice to other communities in developing countries. **Website:** www.southsouthexpo.org

South-South Experience Exchange Facility

Supported by Mexico, China, India, Denmark, Spain, The Netherlands, and the U.K. and now Colombia, the South-South Experience Exchange Facility is a multi donor trust fund that promotes the idea that developing countries can learn from the successes of other developing countries in overcoming similar challenges. In the past 12 months, the trust has given out 35 grants to countries for learning activities ranging from working with at risk youth in the Caribbean to outsourcing IT services in Africa.

Website: www.southsouthcases.info

African Writers Fund

Together with the Ford Foundation, the Fund supports the work of independent creative writers living on the continent. The Fund recognizes the vital role that poets and novelists play in Africa by anticipating and reflecting the cultural, economic and political forces that continuously shape and reshape societies.

Website: http://www.trustafrica.org/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=91&Itemid=90&lang=fr

Joint NAM S&T Centre - ICCS Fellowship Programme

Centre for Science and Technology of the Non-Aligned and Other Developing Countries (NAM S&T Centre) and International Center for Chemical Sciences (ICCS), (H.E.J. Research Institute of Chemistry and Dr. Panjwani Centre for Molecular Medicine and Drug Research), University of Karachi, Karachi, Pakistan

Click here for more information
or contact:

namstct@vsnl.com,
namstct@bol.net.in,
apknam@gmail.com

US\$250,000 for Best Lab Design

AMD and Architecture for Humanity have announced a prize of \$250 000 for the best design for a computer lab that can be adapted and implemented in third-world countries.

The Open Architecture Prize is the largest prize in the field of architecture and is designed to be a multi-year program that will draw competition from design teams around the world.

Website: www.architectureforhumanity.org

PhD Plant Breeding Scholarships at the University of Ghana

The University of Ghana (www.ug.edu.gh) has been awarded a project support grant by the Alliance for a Green Revolution (www.agra-alliance.org) in Africa (a joint venture between the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation and the Rockefeller Foundation, for the establishment of a West African Centre for Crop Improvement (WACCI). This is available to scientists working at NARIs, universities and international centres in West Africa. Women scientists are especially encouraged to apply for a fellowship under this programme.

Website: www.acci.org.za/Default.asp?nav=Home&idno=10

Genesis: India’s Premier Social Entrepreneurship Competition

Is a social entrepreneurship competition aiming to bring together social entrepreneurs, students, NGOs, innovators, incubators, corporations and financiers and encourage them to come up with innovative ideas which are socially relevant and feasible.

Website: <http://genesis.iitm.ac.in>

TRAINING

Ongoing

JOBS AND CAREERS

Weitzenegger's International Development Job Market: **Website:** www.weitzenegger.de/new/jobmarket.php

Global Knowledge Initiative

The Global Knowledge Initiative seeks to build global knowledge partnerships between individuals and institutions of higher education and research. It seeks to help partners access the global knowledge, technology, and human resources needed to sustain growth and achieve prosperity for all."

Website: www.globalknowledgeinitiative.org

Exporthelp - Promoting and supporting access to the European market

The European Commission runs a database for the explicit support of market players in developing countries who want to bring their products to the EU market. The database gives an overview on the EU's preferential trade regimes established for developing countries as well as lists all tariffs, taxes and other requirements for goods imported into the EU.

Website: <http://exporthelp.europa.eu>

Development Executive Group Devex Networking Website

Over 90,000 global experts can network and connect and learn about more than 47,000 registered projects.

Website: www.devex.org

Website Offers Career Advice to Young Africans

Set up by the Commonwealth Secretariat, Africancareerguidance.com is aimed at providing career guidance to African youth and helping them to link with prospective employers. AfricaRecruit is a human resources organisation that provides skills training for African professionals in the Diaspora and on the continent. The website has an inbuilt email subscriber list for all its users and offers a searchable database of career profiles for job seekers and prospective employers. It also offers skills and interest assessments and advice on CV and résumé preparation. It provides tips about interviewing techniques, as well as information on internship and volunteer opportunities, and entrepreneurial skills.

Website: www.africancareerguidance.com

African Diaspora Skills Database

This database was compiled to provide an overview of qualified African Diaspora professionals with varied areas of expertise and experience. The African Diaspora contributes substantially to the social, economic and political development of Africa, and this database is set up to further mobilize this considerable potential.

Website: www.diaspora-centre.org/NEWSLETTER/Database

Aid Workers Network (AWN)

Aid Workers Network (AWN) is an online platform for aid, relief and development workers to ask and answer questions of each other, and to exchange resources and information. AWN is registered in the United Kingdom as a charity. You will find discussions about a range of questions and issues on the AWN forum from aid, relief and development workers all over the world and representing a variety of fields, with new threads or responses posted daily. The forum is a great way to get in contact with other aid and development workers in your geographic area or working in a similar area of work.

Website: www.aidworkers.net

Bizzlounge

Bizzlounge is where people committed to ethical behaviour meet, who want to establish and maintain business contacts in an exclusive and relaxed environment.

Website: <http://bizzlounge.com>

Business Action for Africa

Business Action for Africa is a network of businesses and business organisations working collectively to accelerate growth and poverty reduction in Africa.

Website: <http://businessactionforafrica.blogspot.com>

Business Fights Poverty

Business Fights Poverty is a professional network for all those passionate about fighting world poverty through the power of good business.

Website: <http://businessfightspovety.ning.com>

Business in Development Network (BiD)

The BiD Network Foundation runs the BiD Challenge to contribute to sustainable economic development by stimulating entrepreneurship in developing countries.

Website: www.bidnetwork.org

Zunia

By Development Exchange, it offers news, publications and networking opportunities with the world's development community.

Website: www.zunia.org

Catalogue of Poverty Networks

UNDP is organizing an online catalogue of Poverty Networks as a means to facilitate access to knowledge and

sharing this to a wider audience in 189 countries. Poverty Networks are web-based platforms that provide space for sharing and disseminating development-related information and initiatives. Below you will find information on IPC's collaborating networks, which help foster dialogue between researchers, policymakers, civil society and multilateral organisations. **Website:** www.undp-povertycentre.org/povnet.do

Connections for Development (CfD)

CfD is a UK, Black and Minority Ethnic (BME) led, membership based organisation committed to ensuring that UK BME communities, and the organisations they are involved in, are supported in the process of shaping and delivering policy and projects that affect their countries of origin or interest – collectively “our world”.

Website: www.cfdnetwork.co.uk

Development Crossing

Development Crossing was set up in 2006 by a small group of friends with diverse backgrounds ranging from business consulting to international development. In a world where the environment, corporate responsibility, and sustainable development are becoming increasingly intertwined, our goal was to create a site where individuals that shared our passion could keep up-to-date with relevant happenings in the world and connect with like-minded individuals. The idea behind Development Crossing is to provide a social network that brings together people from a variety of sectors, countries and professions to discuss corporate social responsibility and sustainable development.

Website: www.developmentcrossing.com

DevelopmentAid.org

The one-stop-information-shop for the developmental sector, DevelopmentAid.org is a membership organization that brings together information for developmental professionals, NGOs, consultancy firms and donors.

Website: www.developmentaid.org

dgCommunities on the Development Gateway (now Zunia.org)

dgCommunities, a free online service by the Development Gateway Foundation is devoted to knowledge-sharing and collaboration for people working to reduce poverty in the developing world.

Website: <http://topics.developmentgateway.org>

Diaspora African Forum

This Forum exists “to invite and encourage the full participation of Africans in the Diaspora in the building of the African Union, in its capacity as an important part of the Continent”. We will provide the vital linkage for Diaspora Africans to become involved in Africa’s development as well as reap the fruits of African unity.

Website: www.diasporaafricanforum.org

Business Planet: a new data map on Entrepreneurship

Business Planet, an interactive Google map, now includes data on new business creation around the world. Measures of entrepreneurial activity are based on the number of total and newly registered corporations. Click on color markers to learn more about each country.

Website: <http://rru.worldbank.org/businessplanet/default.aspx?pid=8>

JOB OPPORTUNITIES

- [Africa Recruit Job Compendium](#)
- [African Union](#)
- [CARE](#)
- [Child Fund International](#)
- [ECOWAS](#)
- [International Crisis Group](#)
- [International Medical Corps](#)
- [International Rescue Committee](#)
- [Internews](#)
- [IREX](#)
- [International Organization for Migration](#)
- [Oxfam](#)
- [Relief Web Job Compendium \(UNOCHA\)](#)
- [UN Jobs.org](#)
- [Save the Children](#)
- [The Development Executive Group job compendium](#)
- [Trust Africa](#)
- [UN Jobs](#)
- [UN Careers](#)
- [UNDP jobs](#)
- [UNESCO](#)
- [UNICEF](#)
- [World Bank](#)
- [World Wildlife Fund](#)
- [Third Sector](#)



Please feel free to send your comments, feedback and/or suggestions to:
Cosmas Gitta [cosmas.gitta@undp.org] Chief, Division for Policy,
Special Unit for South-South Cooperation